

Charles C. Corbin, P.C.  
P.O. Box 873, HMDX  
Hamilton, Bermuda  
441-292-5037  
ccorbin@northrock.bm

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U.S. & FOREIGN PATENTS

REG. U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFF.

APPLICANT(S): Allen, Drew EXAMINER: to be accorded  
SERIAL No.: to be accorded ART UNIT: 3732  
FILED: to be accorded  
TITLE: COMPRESSION BONE STAPLE AND APPLICATOR

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-identified (Sec. 1.53(b)  
Continuation) of Application No. 09.500,060, filed 02/08/00, for Compression Bone Staple  
Apparatus and Method (Original title), and allowed 07/12/01.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the entire original specification with the accompanying substitute  
specification.

Insert before the first line of the substitute specification, the following sentence:

--This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/500,060, filed 02/08/00, and No. 09/299,285  
filed 04/26/99, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,059,787.